

Angelo Rivera

HB 6916

January 8, 2015 – Date of Injury

January 23, 2015- May 2015.. Angelo underwent various surgeries to his right leg involving insertion and removal of hardware.

(note: a nurse case manager, Keara Sweet was assigned to Angelo's case...very sympathetic to Angelo. Eventually removed from his case because the company felt she was too strong an advocate for Angelo. She was removed after Angelo's amputation in Nov. 2015 and after which she wrote a seething email to company) I have never seen the email although I have asked to see it.

Angelo develops a nonhealing ulcer in his right foot and treats with Dr. Seth Blattman of Connecticut Vascular & Thoracic Surgical Associates. In response to Dr. Blattman's report of September 22, 2015 recommending bypass surgery to right leg, surgery is scheduled for October 1 or 2. On Sept. 30, 2015 authorization for the surgery is withdrawn by ESIS.

September 30, 2015- Alison Vacek from ESIS withdraws authorization for scheduled surgery in October 1, 2015. Wants an IME.

October 1, 2015 - Surgery was scheduled.

October 8, 2015 - I filed my appearance with comp and advise Alison Vacek I will be representing Angelo.

October 9, 2015 - I file a request with worker comp for an immediate hearing advising Commissioner that delaying surgery will have severe medical consequences. I also object to a form 43 filed by ESIS.

October 21, 2015 – IME Doctor, Dr. Antoine Ferneini, writes report agrees with Blattman report about need for surgery. (note : despite my requests I did not get a copy of this until November 5, 2015.

October 29, 2015 - attend hearing. Tell Commissioner about the urgent need for surgery. Lisowski (comp. lawyer) will look into it. Commissioner agrees to set matter down again within 10 days.

November 4 or 5th 2015 - I called Alison Vacek 2 times to find out about IME. Leave voice message. No return calls. On Nov. 5, 2015 I receive call from Dr. Blattman's office telling me they have left 10 messages for Alison Vacek and she has not returned call.

November 5, 2015 -. ESIS sends me copy of Dr. Ferneini's report. I call Alison and request immediate surgery for Angelo. She tells me she has questions on IME report she needs answered before she will approve. Tells me Angelo can go through his private insurance, for surgery (he doesn't have any).

November 9, 2015 -. Work Comp hearing. I tell Commissioner of dire circumstances. She tells Lisowski to see what he can get done. I advise all that Angelo is facing possibility of amputation.

November 10, 2015 - I receive a call from Lisowski approving the surgery. Unfortunately, due to lapse in time Angelo must undergo all new pre-op procedures. Surgery rescheduled for week of November 23, 2015.

November 23, 2015 - I receive a call from Dr. Blattman's office telling me Angelo was admitted to hospital over the weekend and they had to amputate below the knee of right extremity. On same day I get a call from Angelo's nurse manager, asking why Angelo didn't keep his pre-op appointments. Told her of Blattman's call. She starts crying and within a few days is taken off of Angelo's case.